

# Religion

March 8 — March 14, 2000

## Farrakhan returns during Muslim Family Reunion

### Prayer Corner



#### Words to live by

Define your passion - Then live it with every breath you take

-Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

-You can't change the past, but you can live the present by worrying over the future.

-Love - and you shall be loved.

-God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

-All people smile in the same language.

-A hug is a great gift, one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.

-Everyone has beauty but not everyone sees it.

-It's important for parents to live the same things they teach.

-Thank God for what you have, TRUST GOD for what you need.

-If you fill your heart with regrets of yesterday and the worries of tomorrow, you have no today to be thankful for.

-Happy memories never wear out, revive them as often as you want.

-Home is the place where we grumble the most, but are often treated the best.

-Men look at outward appearance but the Lord looks within.

-The choice you make today will usually affect tomorrow.

-Take time to laugh for it is the muscle of the soul.

-If anyone speaks badly of you, live so none will believe it.

-Patience is the ability to like your motor when you feel like stripping your gears.

-Love is strengthened by working through conflicts together.

-The best thing parents can do for their children is to love each other.

-Harsh words break no bones but they do break hearts.

-To get out of a difficulty, one usually must go through it.

-We talk for granted the things that we should be giving thanks for.

-Love is the only thing that can be divided without being diminished.

-Happiness is enhanced by others but does not depend upon others.

-You are richer today if you have laughed, given or forgiven.

-For every minute you are angry with someone, you lose 60 seconds of happiness that you can never get back.



The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

CHICAGO — The leader of the Nation of Islam made his public return at 2 p.m. Feb. 27 with an address before thousands at the United Center as part of the Nation's annual Saviours' Day convention.

In addition to the return of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan following a four-day absence, the four-day weekend event included an International Islamic Conference Feb. 24-26 at the McCormick Place Convention Center, featuring workshops on family.

Another highlight of the weekend was joint appearances between Min. Farrakhan and Imam W. Deen Muhammad, son of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

"We were very, very excited for the millennium celebration which featured the return of Minister Farrakhan," said Imam Muhammad, whose 44-year work established the Nation of Islam in America.

Referring to the union of the Muslim communities under the leadership of Min. Farrakhan and Imam Muhammad, Min.

Imam Muhammad said "The joy was to see the family together, and if we as a community of Muslims in the west can settle our differences then that should serve as inspiration for the entire Muslim world for it is fragmented and divided."

The theme of Saviours' Day 2000 was "A Celebration of Family." Sessions Feb. 24-26 discussed the roles of spouses, parents and children, proper preparation for marriage, keys to a successful marriage, Islamic law, health, economic development and more.

The 2nd International Islamic Conference, which took place at McCormick Place Convention Center, opened Feb. 24, at 3 p.m. and featured hundreds of Islamic Scholars and scientists from more than 22 countries.

On Feb. 25, at 1 p.m., Min. Farrakhan and Imam Muhammad embraced during a traditional Islamic congregational prayer service. Both Muslim leaders have called for all Muslims to unite and work to improve the lives of the human family.

The Jumah prayer service was followed by an evening dinner "Tribute to the Family of the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad," hosted by Min. Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam.

There, again, Min. Farrakhan and Imam Muhammad focused on the unity of Muslims. Followers of Min. Farrakhan paid tribute to the sacrifices of members of the Hon. Elijah Muhammad's family and the early pioneers who helped to establish Islam in North America.

Following Saturday, Feb. 26, workshops, conference participants were treated to the traditional drill and martial arts demonstrations and competitions. This year, however, special Quranic recitations in Arabic and a student science exhibit were featured.

On Feb. 27, a deafening roar filled the United Center when Min. Farrakhan took center stage to deliver his keynote address. Last year, he spoke to more than 15,000 at the McCormick Place Convention Center and announced a sabbatical to heal from side effects of treatment for prostate cancer.

Noting the importance of the message on family, leading into October's Million Family March, Min. Imam, a Saviours' Day coordinator, said "The most important role anyone of us will have regardless of our professional success is the role of mother and father."

## The 'Image of Christ' in Art Lectures expected to begin at William Paterson

WAYNE — As part of the University-wide celebration of the new millennium, the Spring 2000 Art at Lunch Series at William Paterson University in Wayne will explore "The Image of Christ in Art." Dr. Jon Boshart, professor of art history and chair of the department of arts at St. Peter's College in Jersey City, will present a series of three lectures.

Lectures will be held on Thursdays, March 2, March 9 and March 23 at 11:30 a.m. in William Paterson's Ben Shahn Galleries. Individual lectures are \$3 per person. Subscriptions for the spring series are also available. For ticket information, call William Paterson's Shea Center Box Office at 973-720-2371.

Two thousand years after the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, the centuries are measured from that date by Christians and non-Christians alike. The idea of the millennium itself and other western inventions

and values find their source in Christian influence.

"Art is no exception," says Nancy Einreuther, director of Ben Shahn Galleries.

"The image of Christ through the ages reflects a changing philosophy, changing societal attitudes, and the changing role of religion in our spiritual life," she adds.

On March 2, the lecture titled "The First 600 years" explores the very first images of Christ, including the evolution of the image of the crucifixion and the origins of icons, Byzantine, Romanesque, and Gothic (600-1400) art is examined on March 9.

The series concludes on March 23 with "The Renaissance, the Baroque Period, and the Waning of Images in the Twentieth Century (1400-2000)."

Art at Lunch lectures last approximately 45 minutes. Attendees are invited to bring a hot lunch to the informal gathering.

coffee and tea are provided. Special parking is available in Lot 6, near the William Paterson Ice Center, where a free shuttle bus provides transportation to Ben Shahn beginning at 11:00 a.m.

In conjunction with the lecture series, the University's Catholic Campus Ministry will present a "Christ in Art" exhibit with an opening reception on March 2 at 10 a.m., immediately following the first Art at Lunch lecture. The exhibit, which continues from March 2 through March 9, will include paintings, sculpture and etchings from the 15th and 20th centuries from the collections of Dr. Boshart, Gerald Reynolds, campus minister, Sikora's Religious Art Gallery of Passaic, and Father Louis Scotti. The art exhibit will be held at the Jesus Chapel, Prince of Peace Chapel, 219 Pompton Road, Haledon, New Jersey. For exhibit hours, call the Chapel at 973-720-3524.

## African American Heritage Parade Committee Celebrates Annual Spiritual Breakfast



Donald Bernard Sr. family (standing second from left) spends a moment with The African American Heritage Parade Committee Inc. during its seventh annual breakfast celebration. The affair was held to "make a difference in someone's life" and to "encourage others to reach back and help someone else." Imam W. Deen Sharrett was the keynote speaker at the affair held at the Hilton Newark Gateway Hotel.



—Fredrica Bey, Program Chairwoman was an inspiration to the many who attended. Bey is also the president of WISOMM, Inc.

—Drummers from "One Spirit" provided the motherland beat for all attendees

## Raritan Valley 'Links' Chapter to hold Art and Cultural activity

SUMMIT — The Raritan Valley Chapter of The Links, Inc. will present a multi-generational, multi-cultural "Melange" of performing, visual and creative art on March 26, 2000 at Fountain Baptist Church, 166 Glenside Avenue. The program will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., refreshments will follow. Admission is free.

The "Melange" will feature performance by classical, spiritual and jazz artists, liturgical dancers and a choral verse of speaking choir. The purpose of the "Melange" is to support and encourage amateur artists and bring performances to the community.

The Links, Inc. is an organization of over 10,000 women with 270 chapters located in 40 states, the District of Columbia, Nassau, Bahamas and Frankfurt, Germany. The organization is committed to philanthropic, educational and civic activities with the singular purpose of serving community needs for the improvement of life and the pursuit of excellence.

Funding for the "Melange" has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

## Give Thanks

Take time to give thanks for

God's blessings.

Most importantly, for the blessings in your life and know that He is with you.

Please submit your calendar items to:

Religion Calendar

CITY NEWS

111 Mulberry St.

Suite 1F

Newark, NJ 07102

We welcome your requests for collective community prayer for our prayer corner.

Send all requests to City News Religion Section

111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F Newark, NJ 07102

Fax your requests to (973) 642-5441

E-mail your requests to Citynews1@msn.com

## Thinking about adoption?

SPENCE & CHAPIN

Direct adoption, no foster care. Sliding scale fees. Most extensive African-American Infant Adoption program in the Northeast.

973-275-1212



# Nelson Mandela honored for activism

Kelly Foster  
Staff Writer

NEW YORK — Former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize Winner Nelson Mandela was honored by proxy February 28 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Mr. Mandela received the Medical Education for South African Blacks Service (MESAB) Award for his committed fight against racial disparity in his country's education and healthcare systems. Bill Cosby emceed the gala and financier George Soros served as chairman. The event was significant because it marked the 10th anniversary of Mandela's release from prison as well as MESAB's 15th anniversary.



Photo by Kelly Foster

From left to right: Dr. Louis Sullivan, Sisulu, George Soros, South African First Lady Zanele Mbeki, former New York Mayor David Dinkins, and Dr. Mathilda Karim.

MESAB is a nonprofit organization designed to eliminate the disparity in healthcare between South African whites and blacks by providing competent and creative healthcare professionals. Specifically, MESAB raises scholarship money for students pursuing careers in healthcare. The organization was founded by Herbert Kaiser, a retired service officer, and his wife Joy. Kaiser said it was important to him that people be prepared for jobs when apartheid ended. To date, over 3,000 students have graduated from MESAB's programs.

"MESAB's success is built on the foundation of hard work, persistence and moral support," said Cosby. More than \$17 million dollars have been raised since MESAB was founded 15 years ago, and over \$5 million dollars have been awarded. MESAB has an alumni of over 1,500. MESAB has awarded almost 4,000 scholarships to students pursuing careers in healthcare. The organization has increased the number of healthcare professionals from 500 in 1985 to approximately 3,000 in 1999.

*"It is with deepest regret that I am unable to be with you tonight. I want to thank MESAB. For the valuable help it has provided in bringing health services to South Africa's sick and disabled, and I appeal to all of you to stay the course, sustain MESAB, and help South Africa fulfill its dream." — Nelson Mandela*

Dr. Louis Sullivan, president of Morehouse School of Medicine and former Secretary of Health and Human Services, serves as chairman of the MESAB Board of Directors. "Healthcare should not be restricted to the economic privileged," he declared. "Our goal is to make healthcare acceptable to every black person in South Africa." Jim Scott, president of MESAB, said that action is important in establishing quality healthcare. "There is a difference between what is and what is not," he said. He stated that South African medical students need to continue to be a people of action.

Mandela expressed his sentiments over his award through video. "It is with deepest regret that I am unable to be with you tonight. I want to thank MESAB. For the valuable help it has provided in bringing health services to South Africa's sick and disabled, and I appeal to all of you to stay the course, sustain



Former South African President Nelson Mandela greets guests during his visit.

MESAB, and help South Africa fulfill its dream." He said he set out to create a better life for all his people. He mentioned the widespread epidemic of AIDS and the HIV virus as one example of a healthcare issue plaguing the country. Through MESAB, South Africa can proceed with the transformation of making life better. "It's you, MESAB, that should be receiving awards," he stated.

Soros, chairman of the Soros Fund Management, a private investment management firm, extolled Madela's virtues. "When you think about individuals who have committed their lives to ending discrimination and improving the quality of life for all people, Nelson Mandela is truly at the top of the list," he said. Zanele Mbeki, wife of current South African president Thabo Mbeki, accepted Mandela's award on his behalf. Mbeki said that Mandela needs to be remembered as a "tower," someone who steadfastly championed apartheid. Explaining the need for MESAB, Mbeki said that in South Africa, many hospitals are serviced by doctors outside of the country, and many other fields share the similar situations. "The gap in skills is not only in the medical field," she declared.

She said that while South Africa appreciated the help from the international community, they need to learn to be more self-sufficient. "We must empower our people to do this...As a government and society, we must direct resources to the millions trapped. Foreign assistance can be withdrawn at any time."



Nelson Mandela

Begin the Millennium with the  
Networking Event of the year  
April 27, 2000  
CITY NEWS  
Most Influential  
2000 Gala Reunion  
NJ PAC

New Jersey Performing Arts Center  
5:30 p.m. reception  
7:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony  
Tickets  
\$150 VIP Reception & Awards  
\$25 Awards Ceremony only  
For tickets and information call  
(973) 642-4400

## Local Briefs

## RICE INTRODUCES BILL TO AID TEACHERS WITH LOW INTEREST MORTGAGES

TRENTON - Senate Associate Minority Leader Ronald L. Rice has introduced a bill to aid teachers by starting a program to provide low-interest mortgages for them to live in the Communities in which they teach. Many people talk about the importance of education, and here's a real way to do it, says Rice. "Encouraging teachers to live in the communities where they teach," said Rice, D-C Essex.

"Teachers go into the profession they choose because they love imparting knowledge to others. Sometimes, however, low salaries prevent them from owning a home. This bill does something about that by making it easier for educators to buy a house," Senator Rice introduced his bill, S-331, after talking with many educators and other people in the community about the need to help improve education without spending billions of dollars. The bipartisan bill, which has 13 sponsors including Senate Majority Leader John O. Bennett III, R-Monmouth, would create the Neighborhood Revitalization Mortgage Assistance Program specifically to give teachers below-market interest mortgages to live in certain neighborhoods in older cities. Each "urban ad" municipality could participate in the program by passing a local ordinance. Teachers who live in these communities would receive low-interest mortgages and reduced home down payments if they choose. "Having teachers live in the communities where they teach makes the community strong and makes the schools stronger," Rice said.

## ORANGE BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED TO ETHICS COMMISSION

Harriet Johnson, a member of the ORSA Board of Directors and a Board of Education member from Orange, was recently appointed to the School Ethics Commission. The School Ethics Commission is a statewide body charged with the oversight and jurisdiction of the 1992 New Jersey School Ethics Act. The commission meets monthly and has the authority to make decisions or recommendations to the Commissioner of Education on alleged violations of the School Ethics Act and issue advisory opinions. The commission contains nine members appointed by the governor for three-year terms. Johnson will be along with two school administrators and five non-school officials who serve on the commission.

## VETS PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION INCREASING

TRENTON - The Assembly recently approved a measure to increase the property tax deduction for New Jersey's veterans. The measure, introduced by Assembly Deputy Democratic Leader John S. Wisniewski, would increase the property tax deduction from \$50 to an amount set nearly 50 years ago - to \$250.

Cohen and Wisniewski were the Democratic prime sponsors of the referendum to authorize an increase in the veterans' property tax deduction, which this bill would implement.

"We are finally on the threshold of victory in this crusade to bring a greater measure of property tax relief to veterans," said Wisniewski (D-Sayreville). "New Jersey veterans have sent the message: Veterans deserve this deduction."

"The state demonstrated its gratitude to World War II veterans 48 years ago by awarding them a property tax deduction that was equivalent to 25 percent of the veteran family's tax liability," said Cohen (D-Elizabeth). "Because the deduction has never been adjusted for inflation, the \$50 amount is now just a token fraction of a veteran's property tax bill."

The Cohen/Wisniewski bill (S-215A/1985) would implement the state constitutional amendment approved by voters on November 2, 1989. The amendment authorized increasing the annual property tax deduction for veterans and surviving spouses from \$50 to \$250.

The measure would phase in the deduction over four years. The first increment would be \$100 for calendar year 2000, \$150 in year 2001, \$200 in year 2002 and \$250 in year 2003 and thereafter.

## 800 Monmouth County employees needed for census

An interview with Avery W. Grant, Long Branch, a Census employment recruiter for Monmouth County.

**Q: What is Census 2000 and why is it important?**

A: The United States Constitution mandates a census every 10 years to count every individual to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. It is also very important because community leaders and officials use the count and information for everything from planning schools and building roads to providing social and recreational services and managing health care services. Businesses and corporations use the information to help make business decisions on new services, products, and expansion.

**Q: When will Census 2000 take place, and how is it done?**

A: About March 15 every household will receive a Census form, these forms are to be completed on Census Day, April 1, and then returned. By mid April, our local Census office in Freehold will find out which households did not respond and Census takers will be sent to those housing units to help them complete the forms. Hospitals, boarding houses, and shelters will also be checked for non-respondents. It is important that every living person, citizen or not, residing in the United States be counted.

## The light rail system is coming to Jersey City

Gloria Dulan-Wilson

Anyone who has attempted to travel from one end of Jersey City to the other - whether it be by car, bus, taxi or foot - knows how difficult it is to get around the city. Even with the plethora of buses run by a variety of privately and publicly owned companies, the prospect of getting from the Heights to Greenville is still a major commitment of time and money.

But the much touted Light Rail, set to launch March 31st, should alleviate some of those problems. As the first modern light rail transportation system

to be built in New Jersey in over 50 years, it will cover 20.5 miles, transiting the communities of Bayonne, Jersey City, Hoboken, Weehawken, West New York, North Bergen, and Ridgewood, making the New York-New Jersey commute even easier. According to engineer Clark Lasser, the system, upon completion, will have 32 stations, five regional park and ride lots, with 7,000 parking spaces, servicing more than 600,000 people representing 104 cultures.

After an extensive public outreach campaign and traffic pattern research, the route of the train system was determined east from the Vince Lombardi Park and Ride at the New Jersey Turnpike in Southwestern Hudson County, to the southern end of Bayonne in Hudson County. The Hudson-Bergen system is being built in three stages by a design-build private sector team comprised of Raytheon, Iochu and Kinkisharyo (of Japan) who will design, build, operate and maintain the first 9.5 miles of the system for 15 years as part of the first phase.

According to New Jersey Transit, the project is the first contract of its kind in the United States, where the company provides the up front financing of the construction costs. Currently 16 stations are being constructed, operating from 34th Street in Bayonne, Hoboken Terminal in Hoboken and between Liberty State Park and West Side Avenue to Exchange Place PATH station in Jersey City, and they are scheduled to open 7 March 2000. Subsequently, the project will extend further north between Hoboken Terminal and Tonnelle Avenue in North Bergen, and further south to 22nd Street in Bayonne, and is

**Q: How does this effect us here in Monmouth County and Long Branch, in particular?**

A: Loss of big federal bucks! Based on the 1990 Census, if our population was undercounted by only 10% - then Monmouth County lost over \$256 million in federal grants over the last ten years - out of that Long Branch lost \$12 million. That's \$427 per year for each person not counted! In Essex and Middlesex counties the estimated loss is \$1.4 billion and \$400 million, respectively. We know that 10% is a low figure for the undercount.

## Help make the Black community count!



**Q: What is your title and what do you do?**

A: I work for the United States Census Bureau as a recruiter assistant. There are 11 of us who are responsible for recruiting Monmouth County residents as clerks, census takers and crew leaders. We contact people through advertising, pub-

lic speaking, manning tables in malls, personal calls, visiting workplaces, and by any means possible. Please invite us to your meetings and activities.

**Q: Who is eligible for employment, and how do you apply?**

A: Applicant must be at least 18 years old and have authorized employment documentation. Applicant can call our office at 1-888-325-7733 or 683-9710 to arrange to take a short, basic skills test and fill out an application - it is a very simple process! We also need persons who speak Spanish and other languages. The test is given at 14 locations, and in Spanish.

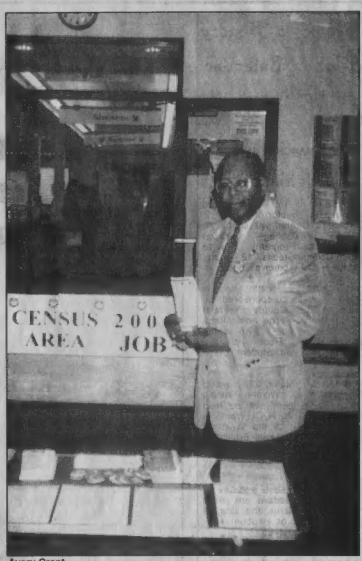
**Q: What are the pay and working hours?**

A: Clerks are paid \$8.75 per hour. Census takers get \$13.00 per hour plus 31 cents per mile for their car, and crew leaders, who supervise 12 census takers, get \$14.50 per hour plus 31 cents per mile for their car. Most will start to work in mid April for six to eight weeks, about 20 hours a week. Work is done during the evenings and weekends, normally, when people are at home to be interviewed. We urge readers to apply, because we need about 800 employees for Monmouth County. They can earn good pay and help the quality of life for everyone.

Call 1-888-325-7733 today



Gov. Christie Todd Whitman



Avery Grant

## Gov. Christie Whitman to expand programs for teens

TRENTON - Local school districts and community agencies will be eligible for a \$250,000 state grant to develop programs that help teens deal with problems and stay in school.

Gov. Christie Whitman has proposed a major expansion of the nationally acclaimed School Based Youth Services program that has been helping to keep New Jersey teens in school by offering a range of health,

employment and social services at their own schools. Whitman has included \$3.75 million in her fiscal year 2001 budget to expand the SBYS program. The funding will create about 15 new sites that will provide up to 13,000 youth with easy access to health and social services. There are currently 30 SBYS programs, with a budget of \$7.8 million, serving about 25,000 students per year.

## Heating System Repairs Can Really Break Your Budget



PSEG's WorryFree® Replacement Parts Service Contracts help you avoid paying unexpected bills. Why pay charges as high as \$340 for the parts and labor to repair a failed blower motor, or \$250 for a broken valve or circuit board?

WorryFree Replacement Parts Service Contracts cover the cost and labor for parts that fall most often on your home heating, water heating and air conditioning equipment. All calls are handled in order of request!

Low monthly payments charged to your utility bill, neighborhood technicians and quality service from the company that's been serving your community for the past 100 years! What are you waiting for?

Send no money now. Simply fill in and mail back the order form to:

PSEG's WorryFree Replacement Parts Service Contract  
P.O. Box 1757  
Newark, NJ 07101-9880

or call today! 1-800-268-PSEG (7734)

Please have the code, indicated in the box below, ready to help speed up your call.

## Save 10% When you sign up for 3 or more!

Yes! I want to sign up for a full year of WorryFree coverage\* for just 12 monthly payments of...

Please select the type of coverage you need.

Type of Coverage	Number of Units	Per Unit Per Month
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas furnace or boiler	How Many?	\$3.33
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Central A/C	How Many?	\$7.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas Water Heater	How Many?	\$1.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Water Heater	How Many?	\$1.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code/Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*To maintain coverage, a Replacement Parts Service Contract must be purchased for all the equipment in the residence (i.e. two water heaters). You receive 10% off when you have three or more contracts. Some restrictions apply. Detailed terms and conditions are available upon request. Customer service calls are scheduled in order of request. PSEG Service Technicians are focused on getting your equipment working as quickly as possible. There is never a labor charge to replace covered parts. Most parts and labor are NOT covered. Please allow 24 hours for service. This offer is available only to residential properties located within PSEG's service area.

©2000 PSEG. All Rights Reserved. A subsidiary of Public Service Energy Group Incorporated.

WP 030800

**PSEG**  
We make things work for you.



## Women's History Month Calendar of Events

### MARCH 22-31

#### NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY (NJCU) EVENTS

**JERSEY CITY** — Karen DeAngelis, director of the NJCU Women's Center, will speak on "CLEP (College Level Examination Program): How to Earn College Credits." 12 - 1 p.m., at the NJCU Women's Center.

A "Lesbian Health Issues Conference," co-sponsored by The Hudson County Perinatal Consortium, will be held March 22, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Michael Giligan Student Union Building.

On Monday, March 27, a group discussion on "Women: Raising Your Self-Esteem" will be held 4:30-6 p.m. at the NJCU Women's Center. Also at the Women's Center will be "Legal Education Program," a series of private consultations with attorney Wanda Moirna, 6-8 p.m.

The college presents a lecture by Nawal El Saadawi on Arab women's problems and struggle for liberation, at Hecburn Hall, room 202, March 28.

Pre-registration is required for all programs. For further information call (201)200-3189.

### MARCH 22-31

#### ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE EVENTS

**NEWARK** — The Women's Center will sponsor a job fair on March 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Third Level Snack Bar. Bring 15 copies of your resume for job interview. The Women's Center also conducts employment clinics every Monday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Call (973) 877-3457.

"Vendor Days" will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Level 2 Forum.

The college will be hosting an evening coffee hour. Featured performer is B.J. Frazier and "40 lbs." March 22, 5-7 p.m. in the main dining hall.

The college presents "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rain Comes Down" at the Mary Burch Theater \$2 for students, \$5 general admission. 7 p.m.

The college's Gallery will feature art work with the theme "Self Expression." On display until March 31.

For event information call (973) 877-3208.

### MARCH 25

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The Black Women's History Conference presents "Celebrating Sisters Around the Globe," at Rutgers University, Douglass College, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call (732) 932-4636.

### MARCH 26

**HACKETTSTOWN** — The Skylands Writers & Artists Association hosts New Jersey writers and poets at the Front Parlours of Centenary College, 3-5 p.m. Call (908) 852-1400.

### APRIL 1

**NEWARK** — The Sixth Annual Newark Women's Conference presents a series of workshops on women's issues, at New Jersey Institute of Technology, Hazlet Student Center, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Registration fee. Call (973) 353-5881, or (973) 923-8924.

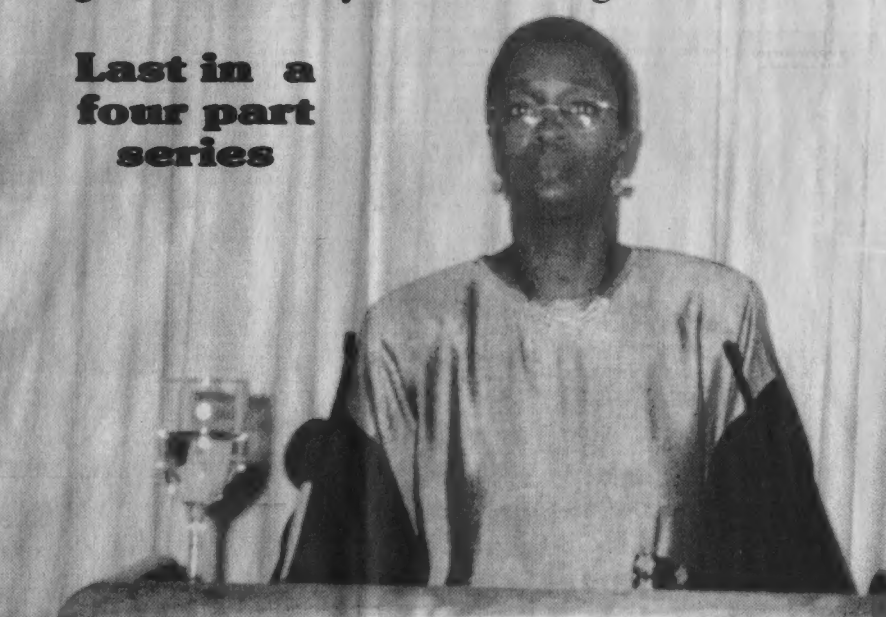
## Correction:

Last week's feature story on Abenia Busia did not mention where her book, "Testimonies of Exile" can be obtained. Please contact Abenia Busia at Rutgers University for a copy of her book.

# CityLife

## Rutgers University Hosts Senegalese Lecturer

### Last in a four part series



Yassine Fall spoke on the topic "Globalization & Macroeconomic Reforms; Challenges and Prospects for Women's Economic Empowerment in Africa."

#### Kelly Foster Staff Writer

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Rutgers University, in cooperation with its Center for African Studies, hosted the fourth segment of a series of African women distinguished scholars. The event was held February 29, at Rutgers-Brower Commons on the New Brunswick campus. The series is designed to educate the public about issues African women face.

Yassine Fall, of Senegal, a renowned economist and activist, was the featured speaker for the evening. She has traveled throughout Africa researching and consulting on the following issues: gender and development, trade, environmental management, reproductive health, social rights, education, and health reform, child labor studies and food security analysis. She is the founder of several women's associations, including the Association of African Women for Research and Development (AAWORD) and the Gender and Economic Reform in Africa (GERA).

Fall spoke on the topic "Globalization and Macroeconomic Reforms Challenges and Prospects for Women's Economic Empowerment in Africa." She said that globalization gives power to those with wealth. For the past 20 years, women have tried to analyze economic reforms. "We see the state as the last interlocutor," Fall said, "women want to understand globalization, and what it means for them and how they can find their place in the global economy."

Fall talked about policy, particularly how it is handled. Women need to analyze the framework of economic reforms, she said. They need to know the challenges they face and what actions they can take. "We've always known globalization, since our first contact with the West," said Fall. She spoke about how the slave trade introduced the concept of globalization. African countries responded to the economic need of foreigners. According to Fall, the capture and sale of human beings created a disruption in the global market. It also created closer ties with Africa and western countries.

She also stated that product and consumption was hunkered from the point of view of the colonies. For

example, in countries where millet was the staple food, rice is not the staple. The French export the rice, they encourage people to eat rice because of the taxation on it.

African countries that become independent of colonization needed to borrow money to finance themselves. It was easy to borrow money, in fact, "Africans were encouraged to borrow money with no conditions," said Fall. This laissez faire attitude led to a financial crisis. The Europeans lent money to African countries, which led to the debt of African countries. The crisis helped Europeans to make money. "Every time there is a crisis globally, African countries respond and become weakened," stated Fall.

In the area of international finance, private banks and western banks are the major investors, continued Fall. Organizations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) lend money to countries. She said the amount lent out is not much, but that these organizations have power. She cited an example of what happens when African countries ask for additional funds. They are told by the World Bank that their economy needs to be adjusted. Economies are held respon-

sible for balancing their budgets. The IMF will tell a country that they need to cut expenditures, often by devaluing the currency. But then they will stipulate a need to regulate currency, so that is a contradiction, said Fall.

Devalued currencies lead to unemployment, which means that women and children start working more. Fall gave the example of women selling water. In Senegal, it is not the norm to sell water, people retrieve water from houses. "This is what women and children do to survive in a formal economy," said Fall.

Fall said the programs of the World Bank and the IMF are similar. All reforms are related to the market economy. She remarked that the government is implementing reforms first by reviewing a country's economy and assigning a grade to it, after which it can borrow more money.

Fall next spoke about privatization, particularly the privatization of utilities. "The government has been asked to privatize everything that can be privatized," she said. When privatization takes place, companies negotiate with the help of their governors. This action demonstrates the government's power. In the case of privatization of

water, women are asked to sell water. The process of selling water makes its access more complicated. For example, the women now need to buy buckets of water. More of their time is allocated for water collection, which detracts from their other activities. The process has an impact on their health, since now they are not getting water from fountains, which are safer.

Fall said that there are policy differences between the macroeconomic level and the microeconomics level. At the macroeconomics level, only ministries of finance are involved with policy. "It's difficult to design a micro economic policy," she continued. Some biases of the macroeconomics policy do lead to microeconomics reform. Policies are defined for macroeconomics, and they are specifically designed for export. Women are not in the export sector, declared Fall.

Fall said that more people want economic education, and that women are now trying to analyze budgets. "There is less intimidation of economic issues," she said. "You have to keep questioning or else you'll have the end of civilization."



Yassine Fall responds to a question from the audience at the Brower Commons College Avenue Campus in New Brunswick.

Photos by Kelly Foster

## Some things never change



Medgar Evers



Myrlie Evers Williams

### HOW MANY WHITE

The following is a letter sent to the editor of the Boston Globe.

**H**ow many white men do you know worry about forty-one bullets puncturing their body as they reach for their wallet? How many white men do you know staring in a Broadway show are falsely arrested in the lobby of their residence and held in custody for five hours? How many white men do you know worry about being arrested simply because of their skin color — e.g., DWV (Driving While White)? How many white men do you know were scared to death when

the policemen broke down his door alleging a drug bust? How many white policemen do you know were shot to death by fellow officers they attended the police academy with because they mistook them for a criminal? How many white grandmothers do you know were beaten to death by White policemen because they considered an elder white woman to be a physical threat? How many White men do you know that have been dragged through the streets and decapitated or had a plunger shoved up their rectum? How many middle class white families do you know require their teenagers to never run down the street for fear they may be shot by some policemen who mistake them as a criminal? How

many white Mothers do you know kiss their sons' good-bye in the morning and check to see that they have the card of the family attorney in their wallet or lunch pail? This is the daily reality of African Americans. The American court system can convict and sentence a Black fourteen-year-old Nathaniel Abraham to life in a prison or death row, but exonerate four New York City officers in the cold-blooded murder of the African immigrant Diallo. This verdict sends a chilling message to all African Americans of what is in store for the Black community. Black life, the humanity and dignity of African people are being attacked on every front and those in the Black com-

munity with access to the Electronic media remain silent. Michael Jordan remains the highest paid gigolo for product promotions, Oprah devoted countless hours to exploring the human spirit but rarely speaks to the escalated attack on Black people, culture and life. We could all afford to re-read the great Black poet Claude McKay:

If we must die, let it not be like hogs Hunted and penned in an inglorious spot, While round us bark the mad and hungry dogs, Making their mock at our accursed lot. If we must die, O let us nobly die So that our precious blood may not be

shed In vain, then even the monsters we defy Shall be constrained to honor us though dead! O kinsmen! We must meet the common foe! Though far outnumbered let us show us brave, And for their thousand blows deal one death blow! What though before us lies the open grave? Like men we'll face the murderous cowardly pack, Press to the wall, dying, but fighting back!

Ray Almeida



Amadou Diallo



Kodoua Diallo

### MEN DO YOU KNOW?

Photo of Kodoua Diallo by William Frazier



# Heartbeat Calendar

**MARCH 2**  
**MONTCLAIR** — Jacqueline Rubino, MPH, is offering a six-week stop smoking program beginning March 2. The program will take place at Lung Diagnostics, Medical Professional Building, Ground Floor, 125 Highland Ave. Cost of the full program is \$150. Advanced registration is required.

Also offered by Ms. Rubino is a Relapse Prevention Group for ex-smokers. The group meets at Lung Diagnostics Tuesday nights from 7-8 p.m. Cost is \$20 per week. Call to register. (973) 509-0047.

**MARCH 6**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Saint Peter's University Hospital sponsors a breast cancer support group. Group meets on first Monday of each month (starting March 6) from 7-8:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the Cancer Institute, 105 Albany St. Call (732) 745-6680.

**MARCH 7**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The Hinchey AIDS Foundation and the New Jersey State Foundation present a free, full-day legal information program. New Jersey Law Center, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call (732) 937-7518.

**MARCH 9**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation will present a free public seminar on the new "Medicare-Medicaid Maze" at the New Jersey Law Center, 1-3 p.m. Call (609)-FREE LAW.

**MARCH 13**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The Hinchey AIDS Foundation and the New Jersey State Foundation present a free, full-day legal information program. New Jersey Law Center, One Constitution Square, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call for registration by March 7. (609) FREE LAW ext. 7518.

**MARCH 13**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — St. Peter's University Hospital sponsors a teen pump support group for teenagers with diabetes, at the conference room, #4245, 254 Easton Ave. Call (732) 745-5374.

**MARCH 15**  
**CLARK** — The American Cancer Society (ACS) invites Union County residents, local businesses, volunteers and cancer survivors to attend the ACS Relay for Life Kick-Off event at the Casual Times Restaurant, 1085 Central Ave. 7 to 9 p.m.

**MARCH 16**  
**BELLE MEAD** — The Career Clinic will host a lecture on Alzheimer's Disease, at the Akron Amphitheater, Route 601, 12-1 p.m. Free to the general public. (908) 261-1461.

**MARCH 23**  
**SCOTCH PLAINS** — The Mother's Center of Central New Jersey presents the workshop "Ten Things to Expect from Your Child-care Provider" at the Scotch Plains Public Library, Battle Ave. 8 p.m. Free and open to the public. (908) 561-1751.

**MARCH 23**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Saint Peter's University Hospital offers a program for adults with high blood pressure. The program will be held on four consecutive Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. in the hospital's Sister Marie DePazzi Conference Center, 254 Easton Ave. Fee for 2 adults is \$25. Registration deadline is March 15. (732) 745-8600, ext. 8421.

**MARCH 25**  
**TEANECK** — The Bergen County American Cancer Society will hold a program designed to assist women coping with cancer, at the Regional Cancer Center at Holy Name Hospital, 1 p.m. Registration required. (201) 541-5900.

**APRIL 12**  
**EATONTOWN** — Tobacco Free 200, a full day conference on control and prevention of tobacco use, will be held at the Sheraton Eatontown Hotel & Conference Center. The conference is sponsored by the following groups: Communities Against Tobacco Coalitions, New Jersey Prevention Network, the Division of Addiction Services of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Visiting Nurse and Health Services and the Vineland Community Nursing Service. (732) 367-0511.

## Fabian's Gift: A tale of tragedy, strength

SPRINGFIELD — It begins, simply enough, with just the ring of a telephone. It is a parent's worst nightmare: a call from the hospital that their child has been seriously injured. The parent's head fills with a million flickering questions and thoughts: Is my child still alive? How bad is my child hurt? Is my child afraid? Will my child recover?

Douglas Taylor, a successful licensed mortgage banker from Teaneck, New Jersey, is someone who had lived through that horrible scenario. Unfortunately, the answer for Taylor and his family was a painful one. It was a situation he knew he might one day have to face. That day came all too soon, when the life of his 18-year-old son Fabian Taylor was cut short 11 years ago—the result of a gunshot wound. As it happened just yesterday, Taylor recalls with his wife, Pamela, and their four children hold near the memory of their departed son and brother.

During the early hours on the morning of July 2, 1989, the 52-year-old father had to be the unwavering strength of the family. Fabian, the Taylor's

middle child, after being ushered to the hospital's emergency room lay connected to a life support system. Taylor, reflecting on his son as a natural born leader, who humored with charisma and possessing an incredible zest for life, knew the advice given to him on that fateful night was one to heed.

"I walked out of the family waiting room," said Taylor. "I found a sweet woman (an attending nurse) and I asked her is this child going to make it? She told us to prepare to grieve." Just as he had come to rely on his parental intuition in guiding his lives of his children, Taylor knew after enduring two of the longest days in his life, a choice had to be made. Although Fabian's life had been tragically cut short, Taylor was determined that his death would not be in vain.

The tragedy also brought back memories of one of Taylor's friends, who probably would not be alive today, had it not been for a kidney transplant. Reflection on the situation helped Taylor make up his mind. Recalling his friend's plight, Taylor said, "Twenty years ago, a friend received a kidney transplant and today he's doing fine because a compassionate stranger agreed to donate." He added, "I had a



Doug Taylor is a Board member at The Sharing Network.

funerary card in my wallet. My children were not in favor of donation, but as the patriarch, the head of the household, I told them I was making the final decision."

Taylor agreed to donate his son's organs, which in his heart gave a greater sense of meaning to Fabian's short-lived life. In death, Fabian became the catalyst for others to live. "They used his heart, liver, and pancreas," said Taylor. To help as many people as possible, he noted, "I told them to use it all."

Taylor has since become a member of the Board of Trustees of The Sharing Network, the state's federally-certified agency responsible for providing organs for life-saving transplants.

In order to get through the tragedy of losing Fabian and making the decision to donate, Taylor said that he, his wife and his children had to draw close together.

One year after Fabian's death, Taylor started speaking out about his experience and the importance of organ donation, especially within the African-American community. African-Americans are four times more likely to suffer from high blood pressure, which can lead to end-stage kidney failure with transplantation as the only hope.

African-Americans, who represent 12 percent of the population, account for 30 percent of the country's dialysis patients and one-third of those waiting for kidney transplants, according to The Sharing Network.

"In the Black community there is not enough awareness," said Taylor who stated that many licensed drivers don't realize that to become an organ donor all they need to do is turn over their license and

sign up. Unfortunately, there is also a strong belief in the African-American community that if a person is known to be a donor, life-saving measures will not be used during an emergency situation. Taylor emphatically points out that this type of thinking is just not true.

Moreover, considering African-Americans receive more than 20 percent of all kidney transplants, Taylor expressed a sense of urgency to dispel such myths within the African-American community. Currently, there are over 70,000 people awaiting transplants nationwide; 1,800 are in New Jersey and more than 15,000 African-Americans are waiting for kidney or kidney-pancreas transplants nationwide.

By sharing The Sharing Network's Organ Donor Registry, Taylor says that New Jerseyans, from every background and walk of life, can help save lives.

Nothing can ever totally ease a parent's pain that comes from the loss of a child. But Doug Taylor and his family have found comfort in knowing their son's compassionate gift gave renewed life to others, as well as peace in knowing that a part of Fabian lives on.

## AIDS Czar commends program expanding Medicaid to HIV infected people

WASHINGTON D.C. — White House Office of National AIDS Policy Director Sandra L. Thurman commended the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) for awarding a waiver demonstration program to the State of Maine which will allow low-income people with HIV infection to be covered under the Medicaid program.

"We anticipate that this program will show that by providing care and treatment for people with HIV in the earlier stages of the disease, we can increase their quality of life and length of life and save money in

the process," she said. More than 50% of all people with AIDS in the U.S. are on Medicaid, with many of those being African American and ethnic minority communities. "This waiver will help those most in need of assistance and provide a valuable service to America's most vulnerable populations," said Ms. Thurman. "The program will help prevent the onset of disease, prevent needless hospitalizations, and delay the onset of disability by making drug therapies and treatment services available to HIV-positive people earlier in their course of dis-

ease," she said.

The demonstration program will allow low-income people with HIV infection to be eligible for their health care costs covered by Medicaid.

Current Medicaid rules state that you must have developed AIDS not just be infected with HIV, to be eligible for coverage. The cost of treating a person with AIDS is much higher than that of providing medications and services that help delay the onset of AIDS to an HIV positive person.

Both the Department of Health and Human Services and

HCFA are to be applauded for their leadership in honoring the commitment of Vice President Gore to work to expand access to care for people with HIV. This issue is very important to the quality of life of people with HIV who do not otherwise have health insurance. This demonstration project clearly shows how the federal government and state governments working together can be responsive to the needs of their citizens by providing quality access to health care in an efficient and efficient manner," said Thurman.



## New Jersey Breast Cancer Research Fund requests donations for campaign

TRENTON — Breast cancer, the most common form of cancer in women, is especially prevalent in New Jersey. The New Jersey Breast Cancer Research Fund is requesting help to finance a successful campaign through the NJ State Income Tax Return. The Breast Cancer Research Fund is asking New Jersey residents to contribute to the fund by checking line 55 of the state tax return. Proceeds from the fund will allow the New Jersey State Commission on Cancer Research (NJCCR) to support innovative breast cancer research and educational projects at non-profit organizations throughout New Jersey's corporate and private citizens.

Last year, over \$200,000 was raised to battle breast cancer in New Jersey. The American Cancer Society estimates that 5,900 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in New Jersey, and of those, 1,500 will die from the disease. According to the State of New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research, New Jersey women have one of the highest breast cancer rates in the nation.

For questions call the NJCCR at (609) 795-6582.

**HELP**

**Raise a Child With Special Needs**

**1-800-99ADOPT**

Michelle G. Galt, Co-Director  
 Chitra Whelan, Co-Director

**Reach the \$47 Million**  
(Annual figure)  
**NJ African-American Health Consumer Market**

in the City News **HEARTBEAT** section  
*Your guide to healthy living*

**Who should advertise in the City News HEARTBEAT section?**

- Health Equipment
- Hospitals
- Health Care Providers
- Pharmacies
- Physicians
- Counseling Services
- HMO's
- Health Insurance Providers
- Health Care Workers' Training Programs

See Also: Page 51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60

**Published every Wednesday**

City News takes a look at the health issues on the minds of African Americans in a special section titled

**"Heartbeat."**

**Call 973-642-4400**



## 'Beyond Body and Soul': What was once old is new for Soul Generation



From left, Soul Generation Herman Hammond, Cliff Perkins, femme fatale Veda LaRue, and Ted West.

**By Gilda Rogers**  
Staff Writer

Hey, whatever happened to the quarter party teas - the '70s version of a house party - and blue lights in the basement? The aroma of funk - hot and sweaty - a mad dash to the nearest empty space on the wall, when vinyl by R&B groups like the Main Ingredient, Stylistics, Moments, Manhattan, and O'Jays hit the turntable. All you old heads out there, y'all know what I'm talking about.

Evolving out of this love genre was an unknown group by way of Jersey City - Soul Generation. Okay, so the name doesn't conjure up any notable memories, but what about "Body and Soul," and "If I Had A Million Dollars," songs recorded by Soul Generation that went gold and platinum, respectively, changing the course of their career.

"Every major company turned the record down," said Cliff Perkins, first tenor and lead singer of the group. "Body and Soul" came out in 1972. Paul "Nyer, a Rutgers student, wrote it. I produced the song and we put it out on our own label, Ebony Sounds."

What followed would rocket the group into another stratosphere.

"We took the record (Body and Soul) to WEBB - James Brown's radio station in Baltimore," said Perkins. "A man named Jim Sears listened and liked it. A week later we got a lot of calls from stations wanting to hear this record."

But when WINN, a major station in Baltimore servicing the Philly and Washington, D.C. area, caught hold of the record it blew up. From interviews to television, steadily touring gigs, the group was performing with artists who sparked their dream - the O'Jays, Spinners, and the incomparable Al Green.

But in the ever evolving music industry, the group faced a reality - disco was in, love songs were out. Original member Earl Davenport - died - Jeff Burgess retired, and Soul Generation was no more. And that's the lore.

But, as the saying goes: "What was once old will be new again." Soul Generation is back together - with original member Herman Hammond, Perkins, and a new addition, Ted West - and on the road again thanks to the new classic-soul format heard on radio stations.

"When KISS (88.7 FM WRKS) changed their format to have an inspiration," said Perkins, who - not possessing any naïveté when it comes to the fickle nature of the music industry - made sure he invested in his future wisely.

"Paul Koyser called me for the first show at Symphony Hall with the Chilites and Soul Generation," said Perkins. "We've been staying busy."

They're even back in the studio putting the finishing touches on a new album, which harnesses together other famous acts of classic soul like Ray Goodman and Brown, and the Manhattan.

"It's like a new beginning. Everyone checked their ego's at the door," said Perkins, whose dynamic voice still does something magical to the insiders. "The album is just about done."

Hoping to catch the listening ear of the younger set, who appreciate good music with a new flavor, Soul Generation is taking its groove, anew, across the country.

For information and bookings call (201) 432-2767.

## MUSICNOTES

**Sony Music announces winners of spoken word contest**

Sony Music recently announced the winners of its "Spoken Word Scholarship Contest," picking the top three entries out of 200 submissions.

Kamal Symonette-Dixon of Morehouse College won \$2,500 for his piece, "Formal Education."

New York University's Travis Johnson won \$1,500 for his entry, "The Misappropriation of Lauryn Hill." Sarah Lawrence College student Chia-Ti Chiu placed third for a \$1,000 prize for her work, "Horizon Rising."

**Journalists 1999 competition.** JazzSet won an AIR for Best Syndicated Program Originating from New York for the second year in a row.

WBGO News Director Doug Doyle won an AIR for Best Public Affairs Program of Feature for his report on Rosa Parks' visit to the Cicely Tyson School of Performing Arts in East Orange.

In related news, the station is co-sponsoring a group trip to

**Destiny's Child gets two new members**

In the middle of enjoying its success on its sophomore platinum album, "The Writing's on The Wall," two of Destiny's Child's members left the group for undisclosed reasons, Columbia Records announced.

LaTavia and LeToya will be replaced by Farrah Franklin, 18, and Michelle Williams, 19.

The new members made their debut in the group's newest video, "Say My Name."

The group will launch a two-week promotional tour through Europe, and will return to the United States to open for Brian McKnight on March 24 and 25. A spring tour is also being planned.

Franklin began working with the group after dancing in the video for "Bills, Bills, Bills," and Williams met the group while being back-up for Monica.



**Whitney Houston**  
Bern, Switzerland, from April 30 to May 8 to see the 25th Jazz Festival Bern. The \$2,167 per person double occupancy package includes airfare, hotel, and reserved seating for each night of the festival. Call 1-800-293-4505 for more information.

**NJPAC seeking applicants for summer arts program**

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center is accepting applications through April 1 for its Summer Youth Performance Workshop.

Students age 11-18 will be chosen to study vocal music, theater and modern dance after an application and auditions are held.

The program will run from June 29 through August 33, from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

For more information, telephone (973) 353-8009.

**13-year-old piano soloist to perform at NJPAC**

13-year-old Pauline Yang of New Brunswick will be a featured soloist at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center during its New Jersey Youth Orchestra Festival on March 12 at 3 p.m.

Yang, who won the New Jersey Youth Orchestra Award in 1999, made her solo debut at Carnegie Hall's Recital Hall in March of 1998.

Yang is currently a full scholarship student at the Pre-College Division of the Juilliard School.

**WBGO show wins awards**

The nationally syndicated program, "JazzSet with Branford Marsalis," which is produced by WBGO Jazz 88.3 FM, won top honors from the metro area's Achievement In Radio Awards, and tallied five awards from the New York Association of Black

**Music Review**

**Herbie Hancock - The Best of Herbie Hancock - The Hits**  
(Sony Music)

Just like the leader of his first band, Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock blazed a path for musicians ready to break free of conventional R&B and jazz standards and create a jazz meets funk and rock style of music, sub-genre of soul music called "freebop."

Now the music of this "freebop artist" has been captured in Hancock's latest album, "The Best of Herbie Hancock - The Hits."

Photo courtesy of Sony Legacy  
Herbie Hancock

**Whitney Houston whitens Cox, Q-Tip on greatest hits album**

Singer Whitney Houston is scheduled to release a greatest hits album with the help of label-mate Deborah Cox, Q-Tip, and Enrique Iglesias.

Houston's duet with Iglesias, "Could I Have This Kiss Forever," was originally recorded on Iglesias's album, "Enrique," last year.

Cox will join Houston in a duet, and Houston will sing a song written for her by Q-Tip. Raphael Saadiq is busy with his own project, Lucy Pearl (comprised of Saadiq, former En Vogue singer Dawn Robinson, and Q-Tip's former A Tribe Called Quest mate Ali Shaheed Muhammad).

Many can revisit that Spanish flavor some of Hancock's music, like "Saturday Night" and "Watermelon Man," as well as the funky jazz of "Chameleon," which introduces the element of music technology into songs.

The album also follows this with "Rockit," the synthesized keyboard and the flute in the background add to Hancock's style.

In addition, Hancock is joined on five of the nine selections by such greats as Carlos Santana, Wah-Wah Watson, and Ray Parker Jr.

**1999-2000 SEASON**  
**NJPAC**  
NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
ON THE NEWARK RIVERFRONT

**NOW ON STAGE!**  
**Rodgers and Hammerstein's THE KING AND I**

TUES MAR 21, WED MAR 22 & THURS MAR 23 at 7:30;  
THURS MAR 23 at 1:30; FRI MAR 24 & SAT MAR 25 at 8:00;  
SAT MAR 25 at 2:00; SUN MAR 26 at 3:00

IN NEW CASTING PERFORMANCE

This freshly, critically acclaimed revival brings vibrant new life to one of the greatest scores in the history of the American musical. Set in the exotic and opulent Far East of the 1860s, The King and I tells the beloved story of an adventurous Englishwoman who becomes governess to the children of the autocratic King of Siam. Filled with stunning scenery, dazzling costumes and immortal songs like "Whistle a Happy Tune," "Getting to Know You" and "Shall We Dance," this new production is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

Prudential Hall • Tickets Tues-Thurs \$48, \$37, \$29, \$22, \$12  
Fri-Sun \$86, \$46, \$38, \$24, \$15

**COMING SOON!**

UNION & THE KIDS PRESENT  
**YOUTH ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL 2000**  
Sun Mar 12 at 3:00

**PHILIP GLASS**  
with **FODAY MUSA SUSO** and **VIRGINIA RODRIGUES**  
Thurs Mar 30 at 7:30  
Fri Mar 31 at 7:30

**MARY BLACK**  
with special guest **Alton**  
Sat Apr 1 at 8:00

**PAQUITO D'IVERA** and **TRIANGULO**  
with **The New Jersey Chamber Music Society**  
Sun Apr 9 at 3:00

**PILOBUS DANCE THEATRE**  
Fri Apr 14 at 7:30  
Sun Apr 16 at 7:30

**RAVI SHANKAR**  
with **Anoushka Shankar**  
Fri Apr 28 at 7:30

**LAND OF FADO**  
Sat Apr 29 at 7:30

**RENÉE FLEMING, soprano**  
**ANDRÉ PREVIN, piano**  
Wed May 3 at 7:30

\*Full Music Program in Culture Pavilion Series  
Artists, dates & times are subject to change

**AWADAGIN PRATT**  
SUN APR 16 at 3:00

The Star-Ledger gave his hit CD Transformations four stars, now the electrifying Awadagin Pratt brings his classical brilliance to NJPAC for a very special evening. Known for his distinctive style, superb command of the keyboard and inspired improvisation, this is a performance not to be missed!

Prudential Hall • Tickets \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

**MJFest** Rock Festival Series

**SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK**  
SAT MAY 6 at 8:00

Sweet Honey in the Rock returns to NJPAC! This Grammy Award-winning female quintet's beautiful a cappella style, versatile repertoire and show-stopping performances have made it a favorite of critics and audiences alike.

Prudential Hall • Tickets \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

**ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATRE**  
FRI MAY 12 at 8:00; SAT MAY 13 at 2:00 & 8:00;  
SUN MAY 14 at 3:00

led by Artistic Director Judith Jamison, America's premier modern dance company and NJPAC's principal resident off-Broadway, with a program that includes Alvin Ailey's American and other dance works. The Rock of American dance! - *News The Los Angeles Times*

Prudential Hall • Tickets \$65, \$56, \$46, \$38, \$24, \$15

**JAZZ GENERATIONS**  
**Tribute to Milt Jackson**

**featuring Bobby Hutcherson Quartet and special guests The Baby Legends**  
SAT MAY 13 at 7:00

A special tribute to the late, great jazz master Milt Jackson. Featuring a stellar line up of jazz greats like Bobby Hutcherson, Billy Drummond, Renee Rosnes, and Peter Washington paying tribute to the late master of the vibron, Milt Jackson. Ages 12 & Up.

A Bell Atlantic/Pewget to Culture Family Time event.  
Performing Society, Target Stores and Sponsored in part by WBGO Jazz 88  
Victoria Theatre • Adults \$18, Kids \$9

**FOR TICKETS CALL**  
**1-888-GO-NJPAC**  
1-888-466-5722

FOR GROUP SALES CALL (800) 223-7565  
ORDER ON-LINE AT [www.njpac.org](http://www.njpac.org)



# Billboard

THURSDAY, MARCH 2-16

**NEWARK** — The Lama Lounge presents Versa Poetry Cabs. An open mic showcase. Doors open 8 p.m., showtime 9 p.m. March 2, 9, 16, (973) 732-0689.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

**PARANAMUS** — Bergen Community College hosts "Out of the Mouths of Babes," musical revue in the Main Theater at 7:30 p.m. Call (201) 447-7428 for more information.

MARCH 10-APRIL

**PISCATAWAY** — The Circle Players present the comedy "Sillys" by A.R. Gurney at 8:30 p.m. with a matinee March 19 at 2 p.m. For more information, call (732) 968-7955.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

**TRENTON** — St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place at 11 a.m. The starting location is St. Anthony Church. Call (609) 985-3189 for more information.

MARCH 11

**WHIPPANY** — The Chicago City Limits comedy troupe, will be performing at the Music Hall Theater-Joc of Greater Morris. For more information call (973) 735-3200.

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra performs selections from Schwellik, Mahler, and Brahms, at the State Theater. For more information, call (732) 246-7489.

MARCH 17-19

The New Jersey Home Remodeling Show will take place at the NJ Convention & Expo Center. For more information call (800) 245-7469.

MARCH 18

**UPPER MONTCLAIR** — The Caribbean Dance Company of the Virgin Islands will be performing at the Memorial Auditorium at Montclair State University. For more information, call (973) 655-5112.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

**NEWARK** — The African Grove Institute for the Arts hosts a benefit performance of the play "Jinny" by August Wilson. For show times, call (973) 412-1807.

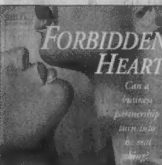
## For the Bookshelves of African Americans

### Payback is a Dog



J. Bernard Nicolas *Payback is a Dog* (Uppervee.com)

The book, with the title inspired by the 1973 Stylistes song, is a murder mystery that switches the places of traditional characters. This time it is not a detective trying to figure out the murder, but a Haitian immigrant who thinks the murder was not just an accident. But the real challenge is against with the force of an all-powerful FBI counter-intelligence agent who is out to stop Ty Boukman from finding out the truth.



Felicia Mason *Forbidden Heart* (Arabesque Books)

In Felicia Mason's newest novel, "Forbidden Heart," readers will find a strong-minded Mallory Heart, whose family has just been brought out by a rival company. In her quest to get revenge by building a business, she meets Ellis Carson, and they find a mutual attraction that evolves into an interesting conflict of focused minds and love.

# Comedian Lester Barrie finds road success with tolls to pay, but worth the trouble

By Rob Williams  
Staff Writer

**NEW YORK CITY** — The road to success has always been filled with tolls to pay. If you are not willing to pay those tolls, then you won't be on your way.

Comedian Lester Barrie did it all have an EZ-Pass to speed him along his route, but you don't find any resentments or regrets about those tolls as you watch him perform.

Whether before an audience of 60 people in Comedy's Caroline Club, where he appeared Feb. 25, or before an audience of millions as the host of BET's Comicview—the cable network's comedy show featuring hundreds of comics from around the country—the same tone goes from Barrie is that he's having a great time doing what he does.

"I try not to take life so seriously, because if you take that approach, things won't bother you as much," said Barrie in a telephone interview from his hotel room where he was staying during his four-day run at Caroline's.

This approach has led Barrie on an interesting career path that has its roots in his college days.

Born in Chicago, Barrie moved with his family to Los Angeles at age 15 and earned a debate scholarship to the University of Southern California majoring in Communications and Theatre. He competed in the speech to entertain category, in which he had to deliver a humorous social commentary.

"It was a training ground for stand-up comedy and making people laugh," Barrie said.

After Barrie's eligibility for competition ran out, he decided to try a routine on the professional stage.

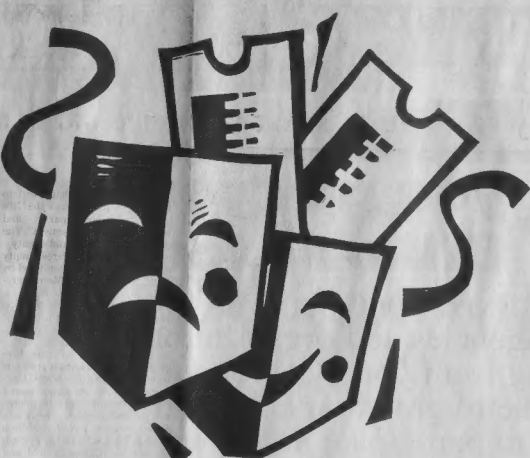
"It seemed like the natural progression was to try my hand at stand-up comedy," he said.

In 1986, Barrie went to the Comedy Store in Hollywood to perform his first routine. For anyone but him it might have been their last routine as well.

"I was not funny enough," said Barrie. "It had back too much message."

So Barrie sat away for a while, studying other comics and watching their styles with a competitive edge.

"I came from a competition



background, so the first thing I did was look at the whole business as a competition. I looked at who were the best people in comedy. I tried to be better than them," Barrie said.

Some of the people Barrie watched included Ricky Harris, D.L. Hughley — the first BET Comicview host and star of the hit own show on ABC, "The Hughleys" — Eddie Griffin of "Malcolm & Eddie" fame, Mark Curry from "Hanging with Mr. Cooper" and "The Drew Carey Show," and the late Robin Harris, best known for his animated comedy, "BeBe's Kids."

"One piece of advice Robin Harris gave me was to put more cursing in my act," Barrie said.

However, due to Barrie's Christian background as the son of a deacon, it was eight years before he began to add cursing into his act.

"It's a difficult dilemma in my heart and soul that I curse," said

Barrie. "It freed me up and made me more comfortable on stage. I seem less uptight."

However, cursing is not a big part of his act, and that helped him with appearing on Comicview as a featured comic, since cursing is not allowed on the show. Barrie performed during the first season in 1992, but decided to concentrate on his acting career rather than his comedy.

"I thought I did not need it. I was one of the few comics that had an acting career. I did not want to be known as a competition comic," said Barrie, referring to the end of the season competition on the show to pick the new host of the following season.

But after playing different roles through movies, television pilots, and shows, like Robert Townsend's Fox variety show, "Townsend Television," he decided to return to Comicview to perform.

"I did it for one reason: I wanted to be the host," Barrie said.

By 1996, Barrie was a regular on the show, performing in the Comicview skits known as "The Blackberry Inn," featuring Laura Hayes and other well-known comics. But his time on the show was short-lived, when one day while in the streets he found out he was fired.

"When I got fired, I was told I fell asleep on the set when I wasn't filming. They had replaced me before I was even told," said Barrie, who was told later that that was not the real reason behind his termination. But that did not stop Barrie from reaching his goal to be the host.

"I did the movies, the pilots, the soap opera to be the host. I went back to BET to do damage control," Barrie said.

After talking with show producers rationally and keeping his cool, Comicview apologized, and

Barrie said he was able to look past the whole incident. Later, Barrie returned to the show and even though he was performing again, he was at a crossroads in terms of the direction of his career.

"I had made a decision to give up entertainment if I did not become host," Barrie said.

Barrie said he was ready to stop everything. He had already given up acting and writing, and he was dropped by his agency.

But after much prayer, and sticking with comedy, he was finally validated in 1999 when the producers of the show chose Barrie to assume the position of host. It was the first time the producers decided not to hold a competition.

"It was kind of a sign that this is what I should be doing," he said.

But reaching his goal to be the host was bittersweet. Just as he was about to assume his position, the union that many comics belong to launched its boycott against Comicview, claiming among other things that the show paid its comics too low.

Barrie found himself faced with a big dilemma: give up the position he worked so hard to obtain, or keep the position and have it overshadow his time with the show. He chose to do the latter, finding the opportunity too big to give up.

"It was too big of an opportunity to pass up. It was too great of a sacrifice for me not knowing how serious the movement was," Barrie said. "But I always remained optimistic that the situation would get better before it got worse."

But even with that cloud over the show, Barrie has something to look forward to. Barrie is in negotiations to produce a film he wrote and plans to star in called "Running Down Crenshaw," a comedy about two navy chefs who find themselves mistaken for drug dealers. A second script is now in pre-production.

Whether it's live, television, movies, or other mediums, one thing Barrie has always done is remain mellow in life, and tries to help his audiences do the same.

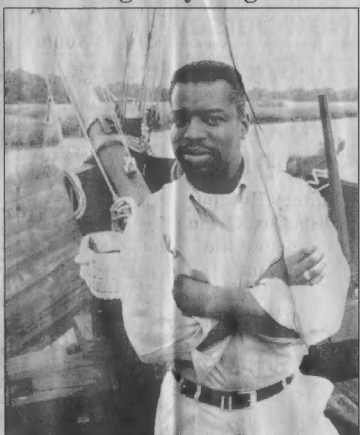
"I try to make life more mellow for people, and give people a different perspective on life," Barrie said.

## Reading Rainbow looking for young writers

**TRENTON** — NJN Public Television invites children from kindergarten through third grade to write and illustrate original stories for the regional competition of "Reading Rainbow's" Sixth Annual Young Writers and Illustrators Contest. Last year, NJN received 1,100 phone calls and 700 entries from children throughout the state and across the region. A panel of NJN volunteers will evaluate the entries and choose ten semi-finalists from each grade level. A group of outside panelists, including authors, educators, and communicators, will conduct the final judging and select one winner and one runner-up from each grade. Then, NJN will enter the regional winner's stories in the national "Reading Rainbow's" Young Writers and Illustrators contest, where they will compete for such prizes as computers, VCRs and "Reading Rainbow" library sets.

The show, hosted by LeVar Burton, is an Emmy Award-winning PBS series that airs every weekday morning at 10:30 a.m.

For more information, telephone (609) 777-5078.



Reading Rainbow host LeVar Burton

Photo courtesy of NJN

## Newark resident stars in "Hello Dolly" production



**NEWARK** — Newark's Aliza Kannerly recently performed the role of Fanny Molloy in the play, "Hello Dolly" at the Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit.

## Oscars academy accept application for student projects

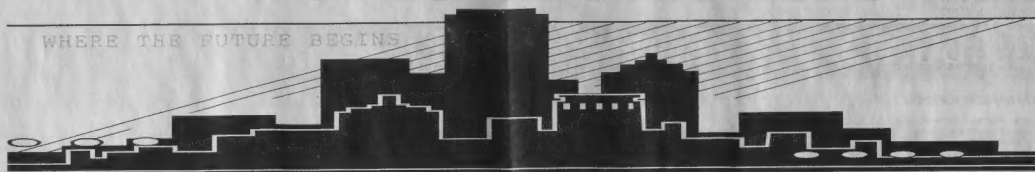
**BEVERLY HILLS** — Applications for the 57th Annual Student Academy Awards competition, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, are now available. Entries must be submitted by April 3 in order to be considered for this year's prizes.

For the program, the country is divided into three regions with New Jersey in the second. Students must submit films first into a regional competition, and the winners will be sent to the academy's national finals.

For more information, call Region Two coordinator Dan Ladeby at (402) 472-6553, visit the website at <http://www.oscars.org>, or mail inquiries to Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, 8949 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Attn: Student Academy Awards.

**MISSION TO MARS**  
 For centuries we've been looking for the origin of life on earth. We've been looking on the wrong planet.  
 Starts Friday, March 10 at a Theatre Near You





## **Will you get your share of the Billion\$ for Busine\$\$**

**BIZTECH EXPO 2000** puts you in touch with corporations, state and city agencies and organizations that are interested in purchasing from you. Come make contacts and hear about the Newark metro growth market and learn how to position your company to participate in this exciting growth opportunity. If you are looking to do business at the airport or with the Port Authority you don't want to miss **BIZTECH EXPO 2000**.

### **Second Annual CITY NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY BIZTECH EXPO 2000**

*Hosted by*

**Minority Business Journal**

of New Jersey & New York

*Sponsored by*

**The Port Authority of NY & NJ  
Office of Business & Job Opportunity  
Schering-Plough**

**GPU PSE&G Dun & Bradstreet**

**AT&T Horizon Mercy**

**BAA Newark, Inc. Merrill Lynch**

**NJ Board of Public Utilities**

**Newark Airport Marriott**

**Greater Newark Business  
Development Consortium**

**NJ Transit**

**WBLS 107.5FM**

**AlphaResources**

**NJ Economic Development Authority**

March 13, 2000

Admission is \$25

Call (973) 642-4400 for Information



Ponder  
This...

By Greg Moore

Vince Carter  
has landed

I am now convinced that Vince Carter is the real deal (but not the next MJ). For the record, let me just say that when Carter came out of college, I argued that he was a superior NBA prospect to his more celebrated teammate Antawn Jamison.

My belief then was based on the fact that Carter, the wondrous athlete had developed an increasingly accurate perimeter shot, and that coupled with his amazing vertical, he would be difficult to defend in the more wide open NBA.

That my friends is one heck of a understatement. Vince Carter is quickly evolving from difficult to defend to impossible to stop. And not too many players in NBA history have been unstoppable.

The scary thing about Carter is that because of his good work ethic, he will undoubtedly get better and perhaps emerge as the next great player. But if Carter does become a Jordan-like marquee player, how will the NBA deal with the fact that the best player performs north of the border, far from the bright lights of the league's biggest markets, such as New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

If you are one of those conspiracy theorists who believe that Larry Bird landing in Boston, and Magic ending up in LA was no accident, then you have to think that the NBA will figure out a way to get Carter out of Canada.

As for the Carter-Jordan comparisons, Carter is an excellent player, but he will never be another Jordan. Like Jordan, yes Carter is 6-6. And like Jordan, Carter went to North Carolina, is incredibly athletic, and has a vertical off the charts. But Carter is no Jordan, nor will he ever be.

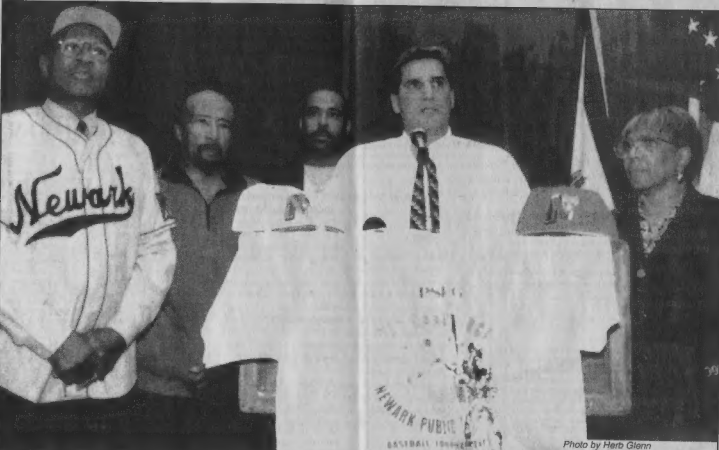
Jordan greatness stems not from his talent, but from his fire and mental toughness. Jordan is not dunk contests, and all-star games, Jordan is his gutty performance against the Jazz in the NBA finals. Jordan is the refusal to lose last second heroics which has replicated on numerous occasions.

The fire, will and passion which Jordan played with cannot be fabricated. It is the sum total of the life experiences which one endures during a basketball career.

In Jordan's case it was the experience of being cut from his basketball team, and the subsequent pact he made with himself never to experience that type of humiliation again.

By contrast, Carter was a high school star of the highest order, a player who thus far has not been forced to deal with the types of basketball hardships, which give rise to the sort of obsessions which Jordan made famous.

Until Carter is dealt with and successfully negotiates such hardships, Air Canada will forever fly at drastically lower altitude than Air Jordan.

Baseball tournament named  
to honor local sports legend

Freeholder President Joe DiVincenzo, center, is flanked by, from left, Mayor Sharpe James, Ray Dandridge, Jr., Ray Dandridge III and Freeholder Blonnie Watson during announcement of the first Annual High School Baseball Tournament in Newark.

**NEWARK** — On March 2, the first Annual Newark Public High School's Baseball Tournament was named after one of Newark's own, Ray Dandridge.

He started his career with the Detroit Stars as an outfielder, but was soon converted to third base. Dandridge later moved over to the Newark Dodgers, the predecessors to the famed Newark Eagles, where he excelled. Dandridge was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1987.

Ray Dandridge has been  
called the best third  
baseman that the Negro  
Leagues ever produced.

The First Annual Newark Public High School's Baseball Tournament is an eleven game series, which will pit Newark high school

teams against their suburban counterparts. All of the scheduled games, including semi-final and final championship games, will be played at Riverfront Stadium.

Invited guests included Marion Bolden, State Superintendent of Newark Public Schools; Sharpe James, Mayor of Newark; Joseph DiVincenzo, Essex County Freeholder President; Art Guida, Director of External Affairs for PSE&G; and Ray Dandridge, Jr., son of Ray Dandridge.

Ray Dandridge has been called the best third baseman that the Negro Leagues ever produced.

"It is important that ventures of this nature exist. When the private and public sector as well as the community come together with mutual intentions, the end result is always a win-win situation," Freeholder President DiVincenzo said.

"As Newark makes great headway into the future, we must make genuine efforts to remember the past and bring it along with us."

BF Johnson First Annual  
Golf Classic set to start

photo by Lecoe Brown

By Herb Gleason

For the golf enthusiast who knows the game and to the delight of an entry level beginner, The First Annual B.F. Johnson Memorial Urban Golf Classic will be held May 15. This classic art of recreation will be held at the Weequahic Park Golf Course in the Newark. It touts the attraction of local leaders, including Newark Mayor Sharpe James and Donald Bradley, Rev. Johnson, renowned throughout

the Baptist community as "The Dean" trained and ordained more than 70 ministers.

"The family is keeping his legacy alive," said Charlie Johnson, the younger Johnson and his siblings have assembled a foundation to provide scholarships for inner city youth to excel in education.

The foundation president is the late preacher's grand daughter, Maria Johnson.

"The Rev. B.F. Johnson Foundation, Inc., was formed in 1999 to perpetuate the legacy and work of B.F. Johnson. It's goal is to improve the quality of life in urban environments through education and mentoring," explained Ms. Johnson.

In 1944, B.F. Johnson was called to pastor Metropolitan Baptist Church in Newark, N.J. He was pastor there until his death in 1992. Throughout his career, Rev. Johnson encouraged and supported many of the historically black colleges. He was a close friend and peer of both the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. Anyone interested in this classic can contact the Urban Golf Classic Committee at 64 Wilbur Avenue Newark, NJ 07112 or call (973) 923-8416. Prizes are available.

Basketball Legend takes  
command of new league

**NNPA** — For brothers seeking to slam-dunk their hoop dreams, the options were once as clear as a Cinderella-team's glass high-top: follow the yellow brick road of college ball to the NBA. With some players going from the high school cap and gown straight to showtime, college ball may change.

Until last year, what remained constant were the alternatives for those not yet ready for b-ball's prime-time: either go play in leagues abroad or go to the obscure Continental Basketball Association.

Last summer, Isiah Thomas, the retired Detroit Pistons superstar and NBC-TV basketball commentator, purchased the CBA. He bought out all nine

franchises and their 40 owners. "What I'd like to do with the CBA is basically take basketball and sports and connect it back to our community and make (sports) heroes again in our community," said Thomas. At almost the same time, another brand-new basketball league was starting its inaugural season — the International Basketball League.

"We have literally carried every sport except hockey. Now we're getting on the other side of the hockey pool," joked Henry Martin, one of the owners of the IBL. Thomas CBA and the IBL are training young, mostly black athletes for life in the NBA and beyond.

## Sports Shorts



**NEWARK** - The Bears Professional Baseball Club recently announced a contest to determine the league's theme song for the 2000 season. First Prize for the winning submission includes \$500 cash, a night in a Riverfront Stadium luxury suite, stadium recognition, and a year-round exposure in the metro area. Entries should be two to four minutes in length. Deadline for submission is March 17. All entries should be mailed to "Newark Bears Song Contest," Riverfront Stadium, 400 Broad Street, Newark, N.J. 07102. For questions regarding the contest, call (973) 648-1050 ext. 118.

**NEWARK** - The Newark Bears will play 140 games this season as part of the Independent Atlantic League, 31st of former Major League players, graded Atlantic League matters in 1999 and more than 30 of last year's players have signed contracts with Major League organizations. The Bears open their 2000 season at home vs. Atlantic City on April 28. For information on Bears tickets or merchandise, call (973) 483-6900 or log on to [www.newarkbears.com](http://www.newarkbears.com).

TRAVELING BASE-  
BALL TEAM SEEKS  
PLAYERS

The New Jersey Panthers Travel Baseball club team is now looking for coaches and players ages 11-14, to play Sunday doubleheaders and to play in tournaments. The club will also play in Cooperstown, N.Y. tournaments. For more information, call Kim at (732) 324-6539.

**LONG BRANCH** - Women's Theater Company at NJ Repertory Company will hold a Spins, Swings and Kicks performance. Come meet the cast following the performance. Three historic female athletes, Althea Gibson, Babe Didrikson and Sonia Henne, will be featured. Inspire a young girl to reach the pinnacle of her athletic potential. Performance starts at 2 p.m. and it is free for all. For additional information, call (732) 229-3166.

Make an appointment  
to have your car inspected.

- Make an appointment at a Private Inspection Facility (PIF). There are over 1300 PIFs throughout the state. Chances are the technician you trust can also inspect your car.
- Call your local PIF to see if they participate in a discount program which could save you money off the inspection fee.
- Remember that regular vehicle maintenance is important. Vehicles that are properly maintained operate more efficiently and reliably and use less fuel.
- Find a location near you by calling 1-888-NJMOTOR or visiting our website at [www.cleanairnj.org](http://www.cleanairnj.org).

It's your time well spent.

1-888-NJMOTOR

NJ Department of  
Environmental ProtectionNJ Department of Transportation  
Motor Vehicle ServicesWe're in a  
New-ark state of  
mindCity News  
111 Mulberry St.  
Suite 1F  
Newark, NJ